

IHSGCA Association Meeting

April 16th, 2008



Meeting Called to order by president Frank Novakowski at 7:16 p.m.

Agenda Items:

Current Balance:

\$26,695.19

State Meet:

Paul Kim reports that Conant High School has expressed interest in hosting for 2009. Current AD and his successor seem to be supportive of hosting. Paul has set up a meeting with the administration to continue the process. Thanks to Paul for stepping up!

Brad Foerch reports from the Advisory Board that the IHSA is awaiting a letter of interest from Lincoln Way.

Judging Recruitment:

Recruitment seems to be progressing slowly but steadily. To date, two individuals have requested reimbursement under the new system.

We will attempt to recruit graduating state meet competitors at prelim's as per Todd Wood's suggestion.

Fall Retreat:

September 6, 2008. Mike Costa is willing to speak on conditioning, tumbling and vault. Other suggestions for speakers are welcome.

To date, no one has volunteered or been selected to replace Ed Raymond as organizer of the clinic.

IHSGCA Constitutional Amendment:

Article XIII, Hall of Fame, Guidelines for the Illinois High School Gymnastics Coaches Associations Hall of Fame, Section D. Criteria

9. Nominees shall remain eligible for consideration for a three-year period. If the three-year period expires without being inducted, the individual must be re-nominated (with a resume).

Scott Phillips pointed out that some current names may be unknown to newer coaches and may need to be re-nominated and resumes updated. Furthermore, perhaps it would help to standardize the resume format to include more detail than is currently provided. This template would appear on the website much the same as senior gymnast nominations.

Coach of the Year:

At the conclusion of each conference invitational, please report the conference coaches of the year to Steve Foerch (stefoe@niles-hs.k12.il.us). Please report Head and Assistant coach of the year.

John Brinkworth Scholarship: Deadline is April 25th. To date, no nominations have been submitted.

HOF Banquet/Golf Outing:

- Old Orchard Country Club, Wednesday, May 14th - 3:30pm - 9 holes
- please RSVP online
- Banquet at Gary Morava Recreation Center, 7pm

National Meet: Applications due today

Senior Gymnast:

- nominations due today on website
- The Association will look into the purchase of a new trophy that will accommodate more names. The individual trophies are donated by Jerry Fontana.

Nominations:

Hall of Fame Committee

Nominator	NOMINEE	Second
Frank Novakowski	Eric Liva	Greg Gebhardt
Doug Foerch	Brad Foerch	Frank Novakowski

Clarification: Steve Kafka and Brad Foerch are serving their last year in 2008.
Scott Phillips and Bruce Biersdorf have one more year of service.
Al Gallate and Howie Rubin have two more years of service.

Steering Committee

Nominator	NOMINEE	Second
Frank Novakowski	Greg Gebhardt	Chad Downie
Scott Phillips	Bill Watts	Frank Novakowski
Bill Watts	Rick Meyer	Greg Gebhardt
Chris Cassidy	Sam Zeman	Greg Gebhardt
Greg Gebhardt	Keith Matune	Frank Novakowski
Frank Novakowski	Blaise Blasko	Chris Cassidy
Greg Gebhardt	Mike Galfi	Frank Novakowski

Secretary/Treasurer

Nominator	NOMINEE	Second
Frank Novakowski	Ryan Dengel	Greg Gebhardt

Sportswriter

Nominator	NOMINEE	Second
Chad Downie	Mike Considine	Eric Liva
Eric Liva	Bill Stone	Frank Novakowski
Keith Matune	Chris Walker	Steve Gale
Paul Kim	Joe Esse	Chris Stevens

Voting will take place at the May 7, 2008 meeting.

Job Postings:

- Buehler YMCA in Palatine is looking for any graduating seniors that might be interested in a part-time coaching position this summer. They can contact Cathy Huffman at 847-359-2400.
- Wheaton North is looking for head and assistant girls gymnastics coaches
- Lake Park is seeking two assistant girls coaches and one boys
- Elk Grove will be looking for a successor to Bill Watts for the '09-10 season...and beyond
- Larry Ohannes (currently at Glenbrook South) is seeking a teaching position in Business Ed.
- Ryan Dengel (currently at Naperville North) is seeking a teaching position in History.

New Business:

1. Frank has received emails regarding club gymnasts and/or their coaches failing to comply with IHSA guidelines with respect to competing for, and working out at, their clubs. Frank also was contacted regarding “rules violations”, the nature of which are somewhat nebulous.

Discussion ensued relative to the possibility of existing ethical violations and how our Association should act on such infractions. Perhaps our Steering Committee can at least discuss how to address these situations, if not act on them by approaching the coach whose methods might be in question. It was generally agreed that we are obligated to govern our coaches and their programs. In addition, involving the IHSA on such “in-house” issues might be unwise as it may send the wrong message.

It was agreed that it is incumbent upon each coach to not only know the existing rules and guidelines, but to adhere to them as well. It was also suggested that these rules be reviewed at all IHSA Rules Interpretation Meetings thus reaching all coaches. The Association appeals to each coach’s sense of fair play to abide by the rules set down by the state.

Doug and Scott Hagel will put together a synopsis of what coaches need to know about such matters. This memo will be forthcoming.

2. Greg brought up the current sectional seeding system. Brad reported that the IHSA apparently ignored the suggestions of the Advisory Board to seed out to 10 places. The suggestion to seed all teams is currently going to the Board of Directors.

3. Steve brought up the practice of using one-hundredths of a point to differentiate between routines at invitationals in an effort to save on medals. His opinion is that this is not only unfeasible and inaccurate, but patently unfair. It was pointed out that this increasingly pervasive practice has far-reaching effects such as national team average and all-American status. Suggestion: by providing duplicate medals, the host school will incur minimal expense which can be passed on to the visiting schools. Rationale: this will allow judges to have multiple ties thus providing the gymnasts with their rightful score and place and avoid the judges “bumping” the gymnast up or down in the final placing.

4. Greg suggested the Rules Committee revisit the use of bonus to differentiate scores particularly in higher-level routines.

5. Chris Stevens inquired as to how many contests an individual must participate in to be eligible for state series. The tentative answer seemed to be two.

Meeting adjourned: 8:36 p.m.

Next IHSGCA Meeting is Wednesday, May 7 at Rolling Meadows High School, 7:00 p.m.